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Agenda item 32
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Identical letters dated 23 May 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the signing of a so-called agreement between the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in Sokhumi on the creation of joint information-coordination centre, dated 18 May 2017 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as an official document of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 32, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kaha **Imnadze**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 23 May 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the signing of a so-called agreement between the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in Sokhumi on the creation of joint information-coordination centre

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia condemns the signing of a so-called agreement between the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in Sokhumi on "the rules of establishment and functioning of the joint information-coordination centre of agencies for internal affairs" that took place on 18 May 2017.

Creation by the Russian Federation of a so-called joint group of armed forces in the Abkhazia region, now followed by the merger of law enforcement and investigative bodies, which were envisaged by the 2014 so-called treaty on alliance and strategic partnership, represent clear proof of a factual annexation process of the occupied region.

The so-called agreement totally disregards fundamental principles and norms of international law such as sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders. This is an intentional step taken by the Russian Federation to undermine the peace policy of the Georgian Government, supported by the international community. Such kind of actions contribute to destabilization of the situation in the region and harm the Geneva international discussions.

Ongoing illegal processes in the occupied territories of Georgia vividly demonstrate the need for firm and consolidated international efforts. We appeal to the international community to take effective measures aimed at de-occupation and prevention of the annexation of Georgia's occupied regions.